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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/615,976	07/14/2000	James Richard Wason	13682(END9-2000-0083US1)	6527

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EXAMINER

ANYA, CHARLES E

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2126

DATE MAILED: 07/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/615,976

Applicant(s)

WASON, JAMES RICHARD

Examiner

Charles E Anya

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 May 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-15 are pending in this application.

Specification

2. Acknowledgement is made of Applicant's argument that Examiner's objection to the specification (Appendices) is in error. The objection is withdrawn. However, the appendices should be placed at the end of the specification and before the claims and must be numbered serially starting from the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. **Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.**
4. Claim 1 recites the limitation "the visual support means" in lines 11-12. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

For the purpose of this office action the examiner would change the phrase "the visual support means" to "a visual support means". On page 3, line 1 of claim 1, the examiner would delete "a visual support means" and insert "the visual support means".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

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5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,832,268 to Anderson et al. in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,279,008 B1 to Tung et al. and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,694,608 A to Shostak.

7. As to claim 1, Anderson teaches an object oriented computing system in an object oriented computing platform environment (Computing Environment 11 Col. 6 Ln. 50 – 67), a Computing Platform (Computing Platform 12 Col. 6 Ln. 50 – 67), a plurality of objects residing on the computing platform, each including an object frame containing data attributes and at least one object method which performs actions on the associated object, the objects being arranged in an inheritance hierarchy of objects to define parent and child object such that child objects inherit the data attributes and methods of parent objects and to further define objects in said inheritance hierarchy which are unrelated as parent and child objects such that unrelated objects do not inherit the attributes and method of each other (Col. 6 Ln. 27 – 67, Col. 7 Ln. 1 – 30), an object manager which sends messages to the objects to perform actions on the associated object frame using the associated object messages (Messenger 51 Col. 5 Ln. 56 – 67, Col. 6 Ln. 1 – 25) and means responsive to user request, for grouping selected ones of the objects in the

inheritance hierarchy which are unrelated to each other as parent and child objects into a plurality of Complex Objects (Block 201-205 Col. 8 Ln. 58 – 67, Col. 9 Ln. 1 – 4).

8. Anderson silent with reference to a visual support means to display visually predefined aspects of the attributes and relationships of the objects and complex objects to allow programmatic support for data navigation, presentation and manipulation.

9. Tung teaches the visual support means to display visually predefined aspects of the attributes and relationships of the objects and complex objects to allow programmatic support for data navigation, presentation and manipulation (Object-Database Mapping Tool Graphical user Interface Col. 11 Ln. 12 – 67, Col. 12 Ln. 1 - 53).

10. It would have been obvious to apply the teaching of Tung to the system of Anderson. One would have been motivated to make such a modification in order to visualize the mapping of database to objects and classes (Col. 11 Ln. 12 – 21).

11. Anderson as modified by Tung is silent reference to a visual support means including a quick view for selecting columns form one table to be included as columns in a second viewed table.

12. Shostak teaches a visual support means including a quick view for selecting columns form one table to be included as columns in a second viewed table (Col. 11 Ln. 45 – 60).

13. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Shostak, Anderson and Tung because

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the teaching of Shostak would improve the system of Anderson and Tung by providing a new view of object currently in focus (Col. 11 Ln. 45 – 54).

14. As to claim 2, Anderson is silent with reference to the visual support means that includes visual support to define a simple object that participates in a complex object.

15. Tung teaches the visual support means that includes visual support to define a simple object that participates in a complex object (“...superclass-subclass...” Col. 9 Ln. 9 – 38).

16. It would have been obvious to apply the teaching of Tung to the system of Anderson. One would have been motivated to make such a modification in order to establish relationships between objects (Col. 9 Ln. 9 – 38).

17. As to claim 3, Anderson is silent with reference to the visual support means that includes visual support for presentation and manipulation of normalized data.

Tung teaches the visual support means that includes visual support for presentation and manipulation of normalized data (“...foreign key...” Col. 9 Ln. 23 – 67).

18. It would have been obvious to apply the teaching of Tung to the system of Anderson. One would have been motivated to make such a modification in order to establish relationships between objects (Col. 9 Ln. 23 – 167).

19. As to claim 4, Anderson is silent with reference to the visual support means that includes visual support for computed fields.

Although Tung does not explicitly teach the visual support means to include visual support for computed fields, this fixture is inherent in Tung because a column tab 1120 is provided and functions to edit the table columns that can hold numeric data (Column Tab 1120 Col. 13 Ln. 15 – 25).

20. As to claim 5, Anderson as modified is silent with reference to the visual support means that includes visual support for summary fields.

Although Tung does not explicitly teach the visual support means to include visual support for summary fields, this fixture is inherent in Tung because a column tab 1120 is provided and functions to edit the table columns that can hold numeric data (Column Tab 1120 Col. 13 Ln. 15 – 25).

21. As to claim 6, Anderson teaches an object oriented computing system in an object oriented computing platform environment (Computing Environment 11 Col. 6 Ln. 50 – 67), a Computing Platform (Computing Platform 12 Col. 6 Ln. 50 – 67), a plurality of objects residing on the computing platform, each including an object frame containing data attributes and at least one object method which performs actions on the associated object, the objects being arranged in an inheritance hierarchy of objects to define parent and child object such that child objects inherit the data attributes and methods of parent objects and to further define objects in said inheritance hierarchy which are unrelated as parent and child objects such that unrelated objects do not inherit the attributes and method of each other (Col. 6 Ln. 27 – 67, Col. 7 Ln. 1 – 30), an object manager which

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sends messages to the objects to perform actions on the associated object frame using the associated object messages (Messenger 51 Col. 5 Ln. 56 – 67, Col. 6 Ln. 1 – 25) and means responsive to user request, for grouping selected ones of the objects in the inheritance hierarchy which are unrelated to each other as parent and child objects into a plurality of Complex Objects (Block 201-205 Col. 8 Ln. 58 – 67, Col. 9 Ln. 1 – 4).

22. Anderson silent with reference to a visual support means to display visually predefined aspects of the attributes and relationships of the objects and complex objects to allow programmatic support for data navigation, presentation and manipulation.

23. Tung teaches a visual support means to display visually predefined aspects of the attributes and relationships of the objects and complex objects to allow programmatic support for data navigation, presentation and manipulation (Object-Database Mapping Tool Graphical user Interface Col. 11 Ln. 12 – 67, Col. 12 Ln. 1 – 53).

24. It would have been obvious to apply the teaching of Tung to the system of Anderson. One would have been motivated to make such a modification in order to visualize the mapping of database to objects and classes (Col. 11 Ln. 12 – 21).

25. Anderson as modified by Tung is silent with reference to providing a quick view support for selecting columns from one table to be included as columns in a second viewed table.

26. Shostak teaches to providing a quick view support for selecting columns from one table to be included as columns in a second viewed table (Col. 11 Ln. 45 – 60).

27. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Shostak, Anderson and Tung because the teaching of Shostak would improve the system of Anderson and Tung by providing a new view of object currently in focus (Col. 11 Ln. 45 – 54).

28. As to claim 7, Anderson as modified in claim 6 is silent with reference to the providing step that includes visual support to define a simple object that participates in a complex object.

29. Tung teaches the providing step that includes visual support to define a simple object that participates in a complex object (“...superclass-subclass...” Col. 9 Ln. 9 – 38).

30. It would have been obvious to apply the teaching of Tung to the system of Anderson. One would have been motivated to make such a modification in order to establish relationships between objects (Col. 9 Ln. 9 – 38).

31. As to claim 8, Anderson as modified in claim 6 is silent with reference to the providing step that includes visual support for presentation and manipulation of normalized data.

32. Tung teaches the providing step that includes visual support for presentation and manipulation of normalized data (“...foreign key...” Col. 9 Ln. 23 – 67).

33. It would have been obvious to apply the teaching of Tung to the system of Anderson. One would have been motivated to make such a modification in order to establish relationships between objects (Col. 9 Ln. 23 – 67).

34. As to claim 9, Anderson is silent with reference to the providing step that includes visual support for computed fields.

Although Tung does not explicitly teach the providing step that includes visual support for computed fields, this fixture is inherent in Tung because a column tab 1120 is provided and functions to edit the table columns that can hold numeric data (Column Tab 1120 Col. 13 Ln. 15 – 25).

35. As to claim 10, Anderson as modified is silent with reference to the providing step that includes visual support for summary fields.

Although Tung does not explicitly teach the providing step that includes visual support for summary fields, this fixture is inherent in Tung because a column tab 1120 is provided and functions to edit the table columns that can hold numeric data (Column Tab 1120 Col. 13 Ln. 15 – 25).

36. As to claim 11, Anderson teaches a program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for performing actions on an object oriented computing system in an object oriented computing platform environment (Computing Environment 11 Col. 6

Ln. 50 – 67), a Computing Platform (Computing Platform 12 Col. 6 Ln. 50 – 67), a plurality of objects residing on the computing platform, each including an object frame containing data attributes and at least one object method which performs actions on the associated object, the objects being arranged in an inheritance hierarchy of objects to define parent and child object such that child objects inherit the data attributes and methods of parent objects and to further define objects in said inheritance hierarchy which are unrelated as parent and child objects such that unrelated objects do not inherit the attributes and method of each other (Col. 6 Ln. 27 – 67, Col. 7 Ln. 1 – 30), an object manager which sends messages to the objects to perform actions on the associated object frame using the associated object messages (Messenger 51 Col. 5 Ln. 56 – 67, Col. 6 Ln. 1 – 25) and means responsive to user request, for grouping selected ones of the objects in the inheritance hierarchy which are unrelated to each other as parent and child objects into a plurality of Complex Objects (Block 201-205 Col. 8 Ln. 58 – 67, Col. 9 Ln. 1 – 4).

37. Anderson silent with reference to a visual support means to display visually predefined aspects of the attributes and relationships of the objects and complex objects to allow programmatic support for data navigation, presentation and manipulation.

38. Tung teaches a visual support means to display visually predefined aspects of the attributes and relationships of the objects and complex objects to allow programmatic support for data navigation, presentation and manipulation (Object-

Database Mapping Tool Graphical user Interface Col. 11 Ln. 12 – 67, Col. 12 Ln. 1 – 53).

39. It would have been obvious to apply the teaching of Tung to the system of Anderson. One would have been motivated to make such a modification in order to visualize the mapping of database to objects and classes (Col. 11 Ln. 12 – 21).

40. Anderson as modified by Tung is silent with reference to providing a quick view support for selecting columns from one table to be included as columns in a second viewed table.

41. Shostak teaches to providing a quick view support for selecting columns from one table to be included as columns in a second viewed table (Col. 11 Ln. 45 – 60).

42. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Shostak, Anderson and Tung because the teaching of Shostak would improve the system of Anderson and Tung by providing a new view of object currently in focus (Col. 11 Ln. 45 – 54).

43. As to claim 12, Anderson as modified in claim 11 is silent with reference to the providing step that includes visual support to define a simple object that participates in a complex object.

44. Tung teaches the providing step that includes visual support to define a simple object that participates in a complex object (“...superclass-subclass...” Col. 9 Ln. 9 – 38).

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45. It would have been obvious to apply the teaching of Tung to the system of Anderson. One would have been motivated to make such a modification in order to establish relationships between objects (Col. 9 Ln. 9 – 38).

46. As to claim 13, Anderson as modified in claim 11 is silent with reference to the providing step that includes visual support for presentation and manipulation of normalized data.

47. Tung teaches the providing step to include visual support for presentation and manipulation of normalized data (“...foreign key...” Col. 9 Ln. 23 – 67).

48. It would have been obvious to apply the teaching of Tung to the system of Anderson. One would have been motivated to make such a modification in order to establish relationships between objects (Col. 9 Ln. 23 – 67).

49. As to claim 14, Anderson is silent with reference to the providing step includes the step of providing visual support for computed fields.

Although Tung does not explicitly teach the providing step that includes the step of providing visual support for computed fields, this fixture is inherent in Tung because a column tab 1120 is provided and functions to edit the table columns that can hold numeric data (Column Tab 1120 Col. 13 Ln. 15 – 25).

50. As to claim 15, Anderson as modified is silent with reference to the providing step includes the step of providing visual support for summary fields.

Although Tung does not explicitly teach the providing step to include the of providing visual support for summary fields, this fixture is inherent in Tung because a column tab 1120 is provided and functions to edit the table columns that can hold numeric data (Column Tab 1120 Col. 13 Ln. 15 – 25).

Response to Arguments

51. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-15 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles E Anya whose telephone number is (703) 305-3411. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30-6:00) First Friday off.

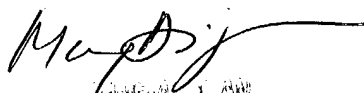
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, An Meng-Ai can be reached on (703) 305-9678. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Charles E Anya
Examiner
Art Unit 2126

cea.


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